

25th Legislative District Democrats

Candidate Endorsement Request (*Puyallup City Council*)

Office Sought: City Council Position 3 Today's Date: 6/11/2019

Campaign Information

Name of Campaign: Ned Witting Campaign Manager: _____

Campaign Address: 2409 32nd Avenue SE Puyallup WA 98374

Campaign Phone: 253 948-7180 Email: nwitting@hotmail.com

Website: _____

Social media:

Facebook: Ned4Puyallup Twitter: _____ Other: _____

What is your win number? 2501

How much money do you intend to spend on this campaign? \$8-10,000 How much in personal funds do you intend to spend? Up to \$5,000 How much have you raised so far? Not Started

How many volunteers do you expect to have supporting your campaign? 20

How many volunteers have you recruited so far? 9

Party Affiliation: Democrat

Are you using union printers and/or sign shops to do your campaign printing? Not sure yet. Depends on in-kind donations

Personal Information:

Full Name (as shown on ballot): Ned Witting

Address: 2409 32nd Avenue SE Puyallup WA 98374

Years at this address: 20 Legislative District: 20 Precinct: 20

Years in the city of Puyallup: 20

Education (Please indicate highest level attained)

Degree (specify): BBA, MBA School: College of William and Mary, Santa Clara University

Previous Public Service

Office/Position Held: _Board Member, V.P. Membership, District Chairman, Scoutmaster, Pacific Harbors Council BSA
Dates: 1999-2019

Nature of Organization: _Youth Organization

Duties: _Various, from leading youth outings and teaching skills to directing council actions

Office/Position Held: _Board Member League of Women Voters Dates: _2018-2019

Nature of Organization: ___Non-partisan political advocacy organization

Duties: ___Board service and event organization

Office/Position Held: ___State Coordinator, Better Angels Dates: _2018-2019

Nature of Organization: _____Non-Partisan Political Organization

Duties: ___Organized and facilitated workshops and events, and led organization within Washington state.

Office/Position Held: _Volunteer Coordinator, NoLabels Dates: _2014-2016

Nature of Organization: _____Non-partisan political organization

Duties: _____Recruitedment and Engagement of state volunteers

Current Job Information

Employer: ___Retired Title: _____

Supervisor: _____ E-mail Address: ___nwwitting@hotmail.com

Work Phone: ___253-948-7180

Major Civic Interests

Civic Clubs or Community Organizations You Have Been Involved With?

___Boy Scouts of America ___Sunrise Elementary PTA

___Better Angels ___Pathways Coalition, Sumner School District

___No Labels ___Curriculum Committee Puyallup School District

___League of Women Voters

Questionnaire

Please keep your answers brief.

If you need more room, attach a separate page at the end and mark "see attached" on the questionnaire.

Please list your qualifications for seeking office:

As a business retiree, I have the time to research carefully, the skills to plan and execute carefully and the enthusiasm to advocate vigorously.

Please list your reasons for seeking office:

I believe that Puyallup is wasting a lot of time and money by pursuing self-defeating actions that yield no benefit and result in unnecessary lawsuits. I believe I can bring clarity and objectivity to discussions and preserve the character of Puyallup and improve its future.

Have you been involved in partisan politics in Washington State? Please give details:

I was an Obama delegate to the 2008 state convention and a PCO during the same time period.

Have you run for an office before? Please give details:

Yes, I ran for the state legislature in 2018 as an independent. I knocked on 9500 doors.

Have you held office, either elected or appointed? Please give details:

Not in the public sector.

What do you believe will be the three most important issues in your campaign?

1. Homelessness
2. Public Safety Building
1. Transportation/Infrastructure

When elected, how would you make sure that you and your fellow elected officials continue to be accessible to constituents and their concerns and open to public input?

As a retiree, I will make myself available to meet with groups of concerned constituents and will always strive to conduct myself in an open and transparent manner.

What makes you the candidate that the 25th LDD should support over the others in the race?

I have no personal agenda, and seek only what is best for our community and its citizens, whatever their income, ethnicity, or sexual orientation. I have the time and the energy to try and build consensus so that council actions are well conceived, clearly expressed and efficiently executed.

Is homelessness a city, county, state, or national problem? Explain.

All of the above. Much of the funding for agencies come from state and federal grants, and many of the regulations that govern the inventory of affordable housing are passed at the state, county and municipal level. I believe however that the city

is where the rubber meets the road. Expanding affordable housing, de-criminalizing homelessness, and providing support for individuals experiencing will be my top priority as a city councilperson.

Which of the following affordable housing proposals do you support:

- a) Reduction in impact fees for Accessory Dwelling Units? If so, the full 80% reduction allowed by law, or less? Yes, the full amount.
- b) Tiny Homes? If so, in all residential zones, or in certain designated areas or situations?
 - a. No. I believe that there are more cost-effective solutions than tiny homes, and ones that can be implemented more easily in a variety of communities
- c) Cottage Housing? If so, in all residential zones, or in certain designated areas or situations?
 - a. No. (See tiny homes explanation above) I guess I should say that I would support these options if they were the best alternative for a particular situation.
- d) What other affordable housing proposals do you support?
 - a. I believe that self-governing group homes could provide an easy and affordable supply of housing units. I am happy to answer questions about this option..

Do you support the continuation of the city's defense of its High Impact Business License imposed on the New Hope Resource Center? If so, how much tax money should be spent to defend it?

No, I do not. New Hope provides valuable services to the indigent in our community.

Do you support the dedication of city revenue to help create a shelter for single homeless adults? Yes

Do you support zoning an area within city limits where a business or non-profit agency could locate a managed campground? Yes

Do you believe that crime has increased or decreased in Puyallup in recent years, and what evidence do you have for your position?

UW Tacoma statistics show a recent reduction in crime, but the long-term trend is less clear.

Do you support putting a bond to city residents to build a new Public Safety Building? If so, the full proposed \$100 million including a 96 bed jail, or a lesser amount with fewer municipal court and police department amenities?

Yes, but I believe the \$88 million currently on the table is too much for a city our size.

Do you support a change in the form of city government to the mayor-council model? I do not.

Would you pledge to not create Requests For Proposals except for new or existing events/projects that are in clear legal ownership of the City of Puyallup? Yes

Would you take leadership to create a City Ethics Commission, or to propose changing the job description of the Assistant City Manager to City Ombudsman for greater accountability on citizen concerns? If not, what would you propose to handle ethics issues? Yes, and I would agree to serve as the council representative on that commission.

In order of importance, what issues/initiatives do you believe are most important for city council to focus on?

Homelessness
Public Safety Building
Transportation/Infrastructure

As a way to have a broader representation from throughout the city, what would be an appropriate salary so all citizens could afford to take the time to serve on city council?

I believe citizens should be motivated by community spirit rather than economic gain to serve on the city council. I therefore would not support increasing the salary across the board, but would support an additional stipend for any individual making less than a specified amount.

What will you do to support union organizing in your city?

I would personally investigate any complaints about improper actions by employers, and refer them to the appropriate authorities.

What else would you do to support more living wage jobs in your city?

I would support economic development efforts to bring higher paying jobs to the area, and training programs to train area citizens to fill those positions.

What would you do to address the transportation/transit challenges facing your city?

I would support a gas tax.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with the 25th Legislative District Democrats?

Your questionnaire is extremely comprehensive and required a lot of time to work through.

It is the intent of the 25th District Democrats to support qualified Democrats seeking political office for both partisan and nonpartisan races. To that end we are looking for individuals who adhere to Democratic principles as demonstrated by Democratic Party activity, community activities, their reputation among Democrats, and statements they make supporting Democratic values and fellow Democrats. Endorsed candidates are discouraged from giving support in any partisan race to non-Democratic candidates. If an individual is running against another Democratic candidate(s), such endorsed candidate is encouraged to draw clear distinctions and differences with his/her opponent in a friendly, informational, and non-confrontational fashion. My signature below signifies my agreement with these principles and that I understand that the 25th District Democrats may withdraw its endorsement if I do not adhere to them.

Candidate Signature: _____ Today's Date: 6/17/2019

Please save this form as a PDF and return your completed questionnaire to edwherde@gmail.com